

Monday, November 20—Florida Supreme Court hears arguments on whether Harris has final authority to certify ballots as of Nov. 14 deadline.

Florida Attorney General says overseas ballots, mostly from military bases, that were rejected because they lacked postmarks should be counted.

Tuesday, November 12—Florida Supreme Court rules that hand-recounted votes can be accepted for six more days.

Wednesday, November 22—Republican Vice Presidential Candidate Dick Cheney is hospitalized for chest pains.

Miami-Dade County halts unfinished recount amid dispute over standards for counting ballots.

Bush appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Thursday, November 23—Florida Supreme Court rejects Gore appeal to force Miami-Dade to reconvene their recount.

Friday, November 24—U.S. Supreme Court agrees to hear Bush appeal.

Saturday, November 25—Bush drops lawsuit on counting military absentee ballots, but files suits in five individual counties.

Sunday, November 26—Florida Supreme Court sets 5 pm deadline for the Secretary of State's office to accept all recounts.

Florida certifies election results, declaring Bush the winner by 537 of the nearly 6 million votes cast. Palm Beach hand recounts are not included in the total.

Monday, November 27—Gore goes on national television to defend his call for recounts and files suit in local court contesting Florida results.

Bush team calls for private donations to finance White House transition after the Clinton administration refuses to release funds traditionally provided for the hand-over.

Tuesday, November 28—Gore calls for seven-day plan to recount Florida votes to begin immediately. Leon County Circuit Court Judge agrees to consider the recount but holds off on hearing until December 2.

Gore, Bush lawyers deliver briefs to U.S. Supreme Court for December 1 hearing.

Wednesday, November 29—Bush opens transition office in McLean, VA. Gore vows to fight on until mid-December.

Thursday, November 30—Palm Beach ships ballots to Tallahassee for December 2 hearing.

Gore appeals Leon County refusal to begin immediate recount to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Friday, December 1—U.S. Supreme Court Justices hears case.

Florida Supreme Court rejects Gore's appeal for expedited recount. Florida Supreme Court rules "butterfly ballot" constitutional.

Saturday, December 2—Leon County Circuit Court considers recounts of one million ballots from Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties.

Monday, December 4—U.S. Supreme Court sets aside Florida Supreme Court decision extending deadline for recounts, sending it back to state court for further clarification of its ruling.

Tuesday, December 5—The Florida Supreme Court schedules oral arguments for Thursday for Gore's appeal of Monday's ruling rejecting his challenge to the certification of Bush as Florida's winner.

The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals hears arguments on Bush's effort to have the manual recounts declared unconstitutional.

Wednesday, December 6—Fed appeals court in Atlanta refuses to throw out recounted votes in three Florida counties.

Thursday, December 7—Gore lawyers argue for recounts before Florida Supreme Court.

Trials on absentee ballots in Seminole and Martin counties end.

Friday, December 8—Florida supreme court orders immediate manual recounts of ballots from Miami-Dade and other counties. The 4-3 vote gives Gore another 383 votes from earlier partial recounts.

Circuit courts in Seminole and Martin counties rule that absentee ballots did not violate the law though Republican workers filled in missing ID numbers.

Saturday, December 9—U.S. Supreme Court agrees to Bush's appeal for a halt to recount and schedules oral arguments from both sides for Monday.

Monday, December 11—U.S. Supreme Court hears oral arguments on Bush's appeal to halt the Florida vote recount.

Tuesday, December 12—Florida designates 25 electors pledged to Bush for Electoral College vote.

Florida Supreme Court rejects Democrats' bid to throw out absentee ballots they charge Republicans tampered with.

Wednesday, December 13—Bush declares victory, Gore concedes.

Monday, December 18—Members of the Electoral College cast their votes.

Saturday, January 20, 2001—Inauguration Day.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 6, 2001.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.,
Vice President of the United States and Senate
President, Washington, DC.

DEAR VICE PRESIDENT GORE: We object to the 25 votes from the State of Florida for George W. Bush for President and Richard Cheney for Vice President. Notwithstanding the certification by the Governor of the State of Florida, it is the opinion of the undersigned that these 25 votes were not regularly given in that the plurality of votes in the State of Florida were in fact cast for Albert Gore, Jr. for President and Joseph I. Lieberman for Vice President. Further, certain violations of the Voter Rights Act of 1965 disenfranchised many voters prohibiting them from casting their vote which impacted the electoral vote. Therefore, no electoral vote of the State of Florida should be counted for George W. Bush for President or for Richard Cheney for Vice President.

Respectfully,

SHEILA JACKSON-LEE.
CARRIE P. MEEK.
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON.
ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS.

MOTION TO DELAY OFFERED BY Ms. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

Ms. Jackson-Lee of Texas moves that the House delay the counting of the electoral votes until a quorum of both chambers is present.

This is a solemn day. This is a solemn day because it is a day when Congress will affirm the voice of the American people and procedural statutes dictated by 3 USC 15, 16 & 17.

Therefore, any proceeding should not be done in the absence of a quorum, especially, where more than 1/2 million people have a different opinion of the electoral result that will be affirmed today.

Therefore, all members of Congress should be allowed to go on the record to be heard on the issue.

SHEILA JACKSON-LEE.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS,
Washington, DC, January 6, 2001.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.,
Vice President of the United States and Senate
President,
The Capital, Washington, DC.

DEAR VICE PRESIDENT GORE: We object to the 25 votes from the State of Florida for George W. Bush for President and Richard Cheney for Vice President. Notwithstanding the certification by the Governor of the State of Florida, it is the opinion of the undersigned that these 25 votes were not regularly given in that the plurality of votes in the State of Florida were in fact cast for Albert Gore, Jr. for President and Joseph I. Lieberman for Vice President. Therefore, no electoral vote of Florida should be counted for George W. Bush for President or for Richard Cheney for Vice President.

Respectfully,

Eddie Bernice Johnson; Alcee L. Hastings; Carrie P. Meek; Corrine Brown; Sheila Jackson-Lee; Barbara Lee; Elijah E. Cummings; Maxine Waters; Cynthia McKinney; Eva M. Clayton.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN ON ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE TRADE AREA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-15)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit a legislative proposal to implement the Agreement between the United States of America and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area. Also transmitted is a section-by-section analysis.

The U.S.-Jordan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) provides critical support for a pivotal regional partner for U.S. efforts in the Middle East peace process. Jordan has taken extraordinary steps on behalf of peace and has served as a moderating and progressive force in the region. This Agreement not only sends a strong and concrete message to Jordanians and Jordan's neighbors about the economic benefits of peace, but significantly contributes to stability throughout the region. This Agreement is the capstone of our economic partnership with Jordan, which has also included U.S.-Jordanian cooperation on Jordan's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), our joint Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, and our Bilateral Investment Treaty. This Agreement is a vote of confidence in Jordan's economic reform program, which should

serve as a source of growth and opportunity for Jordanians in the coming years.

The U.S.-Jordan Free Trade Agreement achieves the highest possible commitments from Jordan on behalf of U.S. business on key trade issues, providing significant and extensive liberalization across a wide spectrum of trade issues. For example, it will eliminate all tariffs on industrial goods and agricultural products within 10 years. The FTA covers all agriculture without exception. The Agreement will also eliminate commercial barriers to bilateral trade in services originating in the United States and Jordan. Specific liberalization has been achieved in many key services sectors, including energy distribution, convention, printing and publishing, courier, audiovisual, education, environmental, financial, health, tourism, and transport services.

In the area of intellectual property rights, the U.S.-Jordan Free Trade Agreement builds on the strong commitments Jordan made in acceding to the WTO. The provisions of the FTA incorporate the most up-to-date international standards for copyright protection, as well as protection for confidential test data for pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals and stepped-up commitments on enforcement. Among other things, Jordan has undertaken to ratify and implement the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) Copyright Treaty and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty within 2 years.

The FTA also includes, for the first time ever in the text of a trade agreement, a set of substantive provisions on electronic commerce. Both countries agreed to seek to avoid imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions, imposing unnecessary barriers to market access for digitized products, and impeding the ability to deliver services through electronic means. These provisions also tie in with commitments in the services area that, taken together, aim at encouraging investment in new technologies and stimulating the innovative uses of networks to deliver products and services.

The FTA joins free trade and open markets with civic responsibilities. In this Agreement, the United States and Jordan affirm the importance of not relaxing labor or environmental laws in order to increase trade. It is important to note that the FTA does not require either country to adopt any new laws in these areas, but rather includes commitments that each country enforce its own labor and environmental laws.

The U.S.-Jordan Free Trade Agreement will help advance the long-term U.S. objective of fostering greater Middle East regional economic integration in support of the establishment of a

just, comprehensive, and lasting peace, while providing greater market access for U.S. goods, services, and investment. I urge the prompt and favorable consideration of this legislation.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, January 6, 2001.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. CARSON of Indiana (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for January 3 on account of official business.

Mrs. BONO (at the request of Mr. Arme) for today on account of medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 1 of the 107th Congress, the House stands adjourned until Saturday, January 20, 2001, at 10 a.m.

Thereupon (at 3 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 1, the House adjourned until Saturday, January 20, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

19. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, et al.; Authorization of Japan as an Eligible Export Outlet for Diversion and Exemption Purposes [Docket No. FV00-930-4 FIR] received January 3, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

20. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Cranberries Grown in the States of Massachusetts, et al.; Temporary Suspension of Provisions in the Rules and Regulations [Docket No. FV00-929-6 FIR] received January 3, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

21. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Raisins Produced from Grapes Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV00-989-5 FIR] received January 3, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

22. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Certification of Beef from Argentina [Docket No. 00-079-1] received January 3, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

23. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Clopyralid; Extension of Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-301086; FRL-6759-1] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received December 29, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

24. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-301098; FRL-6762-7] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received December 29, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

25. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Spinosad; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-301097; FRL-6760-2] (RIN: 2070-6760-2) received December 29, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

26. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Myclobutanol; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-301085; FRL-6757-9] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received December 29, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

27. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General and classified annex for the period ending September 30, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act.) section 5(b); to the Committee on Armed Services.

28. A letter from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Rule to Deconcentrate Poverty and Promote Integration in Public Housing [Docket No. FR-4420-F-10] (RIN: 2577-AB89) received December 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

29. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting the annual report to Congress on the operations of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for Fiscal Year 2000, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635g(a); to the Committee on Financial Services.

30. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received January 3, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

31. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received January